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LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Phyllis C. Mouton, Secretary
JULY, 1988

BATON ROUGE
P.O. Box 94094

RELEASE DATE:
August 25, 1988

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY JULY 1988 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED JUNE 1988 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED JULY 1987 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,928.2	1,730.9	197.3	10.2	1,916.3	1,712.2	204.1	10.7	1,956.1	1,723.0	233.1	11.9
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	61.3	55.3	6.0	9.8	60.6	54.9	5.7	9.4	61.8	55.5	6.3	10.1
Baton Rouge 2/	262.3	237.9	24.4	9.3	260.6	236.2	24.4	9.4	263.4	236.4	27.0	10.2
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	69.4	62.4	7.0	10.1	69.5	62.2	7.3	10.5	72.6	61.7	10.9	15.1
Lafayette 4/	98.3	89.5	8.8	9.0	96.4	87.3	9.1	9.4	99.7	87.3	12.4	12.4
Lake Charles 5/	76.4	68.2	8.2	10.8	75.8	67.0	8.8	11.6	77.7	67.6	10.1	13.0
Monroe 6/	68.5	61.5	7.0	10.3	67.8	60.8	7.0	10.3	71.0	63.9	7.1	10.0
New Orleans 7/	602.4	548.5	53.9	8.9	598.7	542.1	56.6	9.5	604.9	543.6	61.3	10.1
Shreveport 8/	164.6	148.8	15.8	9.6	165.4	148.7	16.7	10.1	168.1	150.1	18.0	10.7

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

CORRECTION:

Please make the following change to the May 1988 Louisiana Labor Market Information, released June 27, 1988:
Louisiana-Total Nonagricultural Employment
Furniture and Fixtures: April 1988 revised was 0.6 rather than 2.8, and May 1987 revised was 0.7 rather than 2.9.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana, estimated at 1,496,700 for July, decreased by 1,400 workers from June's revised level but increased by 19,200 over the July figure a year ago. An increase in durable goods payrolls resulted in higher employment for manufacturing. Local education experienced a seasonal decrease which contributed to lower employment for nonmanufacturing.

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Durable goods employment for July, estimated at 74,600, was 700 higher than last month. More demand for miscellaneous fabricated metal products was largely responsible for the increase in the fabricated metal products industry. An increase in business for the ship and boat building industry resulted in higher employment for the transportation equipment segment of manufacturing.

Employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing, at 94,300, was 500 below the June revised level. A partial shutdown by a firm in the miscellaneous apparel and accessories industry accounted for most of the decline in employment for the apparel and other textiles products segment.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing industries, at 1,327,800 for the current month was 1,600 below last month's level but 13,500 higher than July a year ago. Mining employment was up by 100. An increase in activity in heavy construction and certain special trades accounted for the increase in construction payrolls. Transportation and public utilities experienced an increase in employment levels as a result of more activity in trucking and warehousing and more business in certain segments of water transportation.

Trade employment moved up due mostly to more business in the food stores segment of retail trade. Banking was among the areas contributing to the decrease in finance, insurance and real estate employment. Services employment remained stable for July. Government employment was down in July, mainly due to a decrease in local education payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,400 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $473.62 in June to $468.68 in July, a decrease of $4.94, but an increase of $17.81 from the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were four cents higher in July than last month and $0.11 higher than the year-ago figure. Weekly hours averaged 42.3 for the current month, down 0.6 hours from the June revised level of 42.9 hours.

Total unemployment for Louisiana during July amounted to 197,300, a decrease of 6,800 below the June revised level of 204,100. The unemployment rate for July was 10.2 percent, compared to 10.7 percent for June and 11.9 percent for July 1987. The comparable national unemployment rate for July was 5.5 percent, unchanged from the June rate, and 6.1 percent for July of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,916,300 in June to 1,928,200 in July, an increase of 11,900. Total employment increased from 1,712,200 in June to 1,730,900 in July, an increase of 18,700 workers.

The state's unemployment rate is expected to show little change in August. Government payrolls will probably drop. Some segments of manufacturing may increase in employment.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change from June 1988	Net Change from July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,496.7	1,498.1	1,477.5	- 1.4	+19.2
MINING	55.1	55.0	55.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Oil and Gas Extraction	52.4	52.3	52.4	+ 0.1	0
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	83.5	82.2	79.7	+ 1.3	+ 3.8
MANUFACTURING	168.9	168.7	163.2	+ 0.2	+ 5.7
Durable Goods	74.6	73.9	69.2	+ 0.7	+ 5.4
Lumber and Wood Products	12.3	12.3	12.4	0	- 0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	0.6	0.6	0.8	0	- 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.5	5.5	5.4	0	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.0	2.9	2.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	11.7	11.4	10.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.3
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.2	9.1	7.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.3
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.8	6.8	7.2	0	- 0.4
Transportation Equipment	23.0	22.8	20.1	+ 0.2	+ 2.9
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.5	2.2	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	94.3	94.8	94.0	- 0.5	+ 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	19.6	19.8	20.5	- 0.2	- 0.9
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.2	9.7	8.9	- 0.5	+ 0.3
Paper & Allied Products	12.3	12.2	12.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	10.3	10.3	10.2	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals & Allied Products	25.9	25.8	25.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.3	12.3	12.3	0	0
Petroleum Refining	11.4	11.4	11.3	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	104.9	104.5	104.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Railroad Transportation	5.2	5.2	5.3	0	- 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	59.1	58.7	59.0	+ 0.4	+ 0.1
Water Transportation	22.7	22.5	23.0	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.6	40.6	40.5	0	+ 0.1
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.1	18.0	18.3	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.5	22.6	22.2	- 0.1	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	364.2	363.5	364.9	+ 0.7	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	83.4	83.3	82.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	46.1	46.1	45.4	0	+ 0.7
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	37.3	37.2	37.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	280.8	280.2	282.0	+ 0.6	- 1.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.6	57.4	57.9	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Food Stores	56.0	55.5	57.2	+ 0.5	- 1.2
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.2	31.1	30.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Eating & Drinking Places	85.2	85.4	85.6	- 0.2	- 0.4
Other Retail Trade	50.8	50.8	50.4	0	+ 0.4

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change from June 1988	Net Change from July 1987
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.4	84.7	85.4	- 0.3	- 1.0
Banking	24.7	24.8	25.5	- 0.1	- 0.8
SERVICES	328.9	328.9	318.5	0	+10.4
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.4	22.3	21.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Personal Services	14.6	14.7	14.0	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Business Services	58.9	58.6	58.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.5	9.6	9.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.4	5.3	5.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Amusement & Recreation Services	10.1	10.1	10.4	0	- 0.3
Health Services	104.2	103.8	101.7	+ 0.4	+ 2.5
Legal Services	15.9	15.8	15.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Educational Services	22.8	23.5	17.7	- 0.7	+ 5.1
Social Services	18.2	18.5	17.7	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Membership Organizations	25.6	25.7	26.1	- 0.1	- 0.5
Miscellaneous Services	14.9	14.8	14.9	+ 0.1	0
GOVERNMENT	306.8	310.6	305.8	- 3.8	+ 1.0
Federal	36.4	36.5	36.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
State and Local	270.4	274.1	269.2	- 3.7	+ 1.2
State	88.8	88.5	89.9	+ 0.3	- 1.1
Local	181.6	185.6	179.3	- 4.0	+ 2.3

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles LMA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$468.68	$473.62	$450.87	42.3	42.9	41.1	$11.08	$11.04	$10.97
Durable Goods	416.09	433.30	400.55	42.2	43.2	40.5	9.86	10.03	9.89
Lumber & Wood Products	352.41	359.31	343.09	43.4	43.5	42.2	8.12	8.26	8.13
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	376.66	375.06	366.13	41.3	42.0	41.0	9.12	8.93	8.93
Fabricated Metal Products	437.68	448.18	415.95	43.9	45.5	42.1	9.97	9.85	9.88
Machinery, ex. Electrical	394.51	394.58	394.64	43.4	43.6	43.8	9.09	9.05	9.01
Electric & Electronic Equip.	576.81	666.85	495.45	43.5	46.6	38.2	13.26	14.31	12.97
Transportation Equipment	426.22	435.78	412.18	40.4	40.5	37.1	10.55	10.76	11.11
Nondurable Goods	515.16	508.13	493.31	42.4	42.7	41.7	12.15	11.90	11.83
Food & Kindred Products	311.65	309.06	298.23	39.4	40.4	39.5	7.91	7.65	7.55
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	184.42	204.12	199.09	33.9	37.8	36.8	5.44	5.40	5.41
Paper & Allied Products	578.40	561.61	580.99	43.1	42.1	43.1	13.42	13.34	13.48
Printing & Publishing	405.68	386.14	402.11	38.2	37.2	39.5	10.62	10.38	10.18
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	725.25	715.72	691.75	45.3	45.5	44.6	16.01	15.73	15.51
Petroleum & Coal Products	745.45	750.96	709.13	48.5	48.2	46.5	15.37	15.58	15.25
Petroleum Refining	757.34	767.97	724.30	48.3	48.3	46.4	15.68	15.90	15.61
MINING	531.52	524.64	528.57	45.9	45.7	45.1	11.58	11.48	11.72
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	525.20	518.64	509.67	40.4	39.5	40.1	13.00	13.13	12.71
BANKING	267.34	267.07	261.50	37.6	37.3	38.4	7.11	7.16	6.81

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,400 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 89,800 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 07 88				REVISED 06 88			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,675	19,725	2,950	13.0	22,750	19,725	3,025	13.3
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,850	8,700	1,150	11.6	9,800	8,600	1,200	12.4
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	6,125	5,075	1,050	17.0	5,875	4,800	1,075	18.3
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,650	12,975	2,675	17.1	15,425	12,675	2,750	17.8
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	14,600	13,200	1,400	9.6	14,625	13,125	1,500	10.3
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,575	5,825	750	11.3	6,575	5,750	825	12.5
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,275	3,725	550	12.9	4,225	3,700	525	12.3
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,775	4,375	400	8.2	4,675	4,250	425	8.9
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,275	3,500	775	17.9	4,250	3,475	775	18.5
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,000	7,275	725	9.0	7,950	7,200	750	9.5
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,225	8,775	1,450	14.1	10,000	8,475	1,525	15.2
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,125	11,600	1,525	11.5	13,125	11,575	1,550	11.9
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,350	3,550	800	18.5	4,300	3,500	800	18.7
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,800	7,950	850	9.7	8,450	7,700	750	9.0
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	12,700	11,050	1,650	12.9	12,650	10,925	1,725	13.7
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,425	7,225	1,200	14.2	8,325	7,050	1,275	15.2
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,900	6,100	800	11.6	6,825	6,000	825	12.0
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	24,200	21,200	3,000	12.4	24,300	21,075	3,225	13.2
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,475	9,700	1,775	15.5	11,225	9,500	1,725	15.4
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,400	6,775	625	8.6	7,400	6,725	675	9.1
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	12,325	10,625	1,700	13.7	12,350	10,625	1,725	14.0
JENA (LASALLE)	6,500	5,825	675	10.5	6,400	5,725	675	10.4
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	16,925	16,025	900	5.4	16,675	15,700	975	5.9
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,850	5,000	850	14.4	5,950	5,125	825	13.9
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,775	11,025	1,750	13.7	12,475	10,700	1,775	14.2
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,425	14,725	1,700	10.4	16,425	14,625	1,800	10.9
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	8,950	8,000	950	10.6	9,025	8,025	1,000	11.1
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,500	6,025	1,475	19.7	7,350	5,925	1,425	19.3
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,375	3,725	650	14.7	4,700	3,675	1,025	21.7
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,225	8,000	1,225	13.4	9,075	7,775	1,300	14.4
MANY (SABINE)	10,275	9,425	850	8.2	10,175	9,275	900	8.9
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,800	2,425	375	13.4	2,725	2,375	350	12.7
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,325	7,000	1,325	15.8	8,200	6,875	1,325	16.2
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	33,650	27,975	5,675	16.9	33,525	27,850	5,675	16.9
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,325	20,200	3,125	13.4	23,100	19,825	3,275	14.2
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	38,725	33,300	5,425	14.0	38,900	33,375	5,525	14.2
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,150	2,825	325	10.0	3,175	2,800	375	11.6
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,325	7,400	925	11.0	8,200	7,275	925	11.4
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,625	17,100	2,525	12.9	19,475	16,850	2,625	13.5
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	19,450	18,000	1,450	7.4	19,200	17,650	1,550	8.1
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,350	16,300	2,050	11.1	18,025	16,000	2,025	11.2
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,500	17,050	2,450	12.6	19,375	16,875	2,500	12.9
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,600	3,700	900	19.8	4,650	3,450	1,200	26.0
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,050	3,700	350	8.9	4,025	3,700	325	7.9
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,600	5,125	475	8.6	5,575	5,100	475	8.4

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.4	45.7	45.6	- 0.3	- 0.2
MANUFACTURING	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.4	2.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.2	11.2	11.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Retail Trade	9.0	9.0	9.0	0	0
General Merchandise	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
SERVICES	11.3	11.3	11.2	0	+ 0.1
Health Services	5.1	5.0	4.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	11.9	12.3	12.1	- 0.4	- 0.2
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
State and Local	9.2	9.6	9.3	- 0.4	- 0.1
State	4.6	4.6	4.8	0	- 0.2
Local	4.6	5.0	4.5	- 0.4	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 45,400 during the month of July. This estimate was 300 less than the previous month and 200 less than July of last year.

Employment in manufacturing was estimated at 3,500 during July. This estimate was unchanged since the previous month. Since July of last year, total employment in manufacturing has not changed, but there were some offsetting changes in other durable and nondurable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 41,900 during July. This was a decline of 300 since last month, and the decline was a seasonal reduction of noninstructional school personnel. Compared to last July, nonmanufacturing employment has decreased slightly with the reduction of government employment.

During the next thirty days, the number of employed and unemployed will vary slightly with the unemployment rate decreasing by a small margin.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	209.7	210.2	209.3	- 0.5	+ 0.4
MANUFACTURING	18.8	18.7	18.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	4.0	4.0	3.8	0	+ 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	14.8	14.7	14.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.3	10.2	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	20.5	21.1	18.9	- 0.6	+ 1.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.3	10.4	10.3	- 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	51.5	51.3	50.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.6	11.2	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.8	7.8	7.6	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	39.9	39.7	39.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.4	13.6	13.7	- 0.2	- 0.3
Banking	3.3	3.4	3.7	- 0.1	- 0.4
SERVICES	44.0	44.2	43.4	- 0.2	+ 0.6
GOVERNMENT	50.4	50.1	52.9	+ 0.3	- 2.5
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	48.2	47.9	50.8	+ 0.3	- 2.6
State	25.5	25.1	27.9	+ 0.4	- 2.4
Local	22.7	22.8	22.9	- 0.1	- 0.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$567.63	$543.15	$516.46	43.1	42.5	43.4	$13.17	$12.78	$11.90
Petro-Chemicals	738.30	698.64	652.08	45.8	44.9	45.6	16.12	15.56	14.30

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 209,700 during July, was down 500 from the June revised estimate and up 400 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 18,800, was up 100 during the current period and up 300 over the year-ago estimate. Durable goods showed no change during the current period; however, current estimates are up 200 over the year-ago totals due to increases in fabricated metal products and in other durable goods. Nondurable goods were up due to more business in industrial organic chemicals.

Total nonmanufacturing was down 600 during July and up 100 over the year-ago estimate. Construction was down due to less business in general building contractors-nonresidential buildings and in heavy construction, except highway and street construction. Transportation and public utilities were down due to less business in services incidental to water transportation. Retail trade rose due to seasonal increases in department stores and food stores, and more business in motor vehicle dealers (new and used). Finance, insurance and real estate was down due to less business in commercial and stock savings banks, and in insurance agents, brokers, and services. Services decreased due to less business in offices of physicians, in nursing and personal care facilities, and in out-patient care facilities. Seasonal declines were noted in elementary and secondary schools. State government rose due to a seasonal increase of student workers in state colleges and universities. Staff reductions were recorded in local government.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge LMA's 12,300 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $567.63, up $24.48 from the revised June average. Average weekly hours, at 43.1, were up 0.6 hours. Average hourly earnings, at $13.17, were up $0.39 per hour. More overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was 237,900 during July, an increase of 1,700 from the revised June estimate and up 1,500 from the year-ago estimate. Unemployment, at 24,400, was unchanged during the current period and was down 2,600 from July of last year. The local unemployment rate for July was 9.3 percent, down from the revised 9.4 percent for June and down from 10.2 percent for July of last year. Baton Rouge's civilian labor force totaled 262,300 during July, up 1,700 from the prior month and down 1,100 from July, 1987.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 4,349 individuals with new or renewal applications and placed 860 applicants in jobs during July 1988.

The consumer price index for June 1988 for all urban consumers was 118.0 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 116.7 using base period 1982, 1983, 1984 = 100.

Employment is expected to show some increases, while unemployment and the unemployment rate continue to be seasonally high during the coming month.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.2	53.5	52.2	- 0.3	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0
Durable Goods	3.0	2.9	2.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.4	1.8	- 0.1	- 0.5
MINING	6.2	6.2	5.8	0	+ 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	1.6	1.6	1.5	0	+ 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.2	6.1	5.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Water Transportation	3.9	3.8	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.8	13.7	13.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Retail Trade	10.9	10.8	11.0	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.5	3.5	3.1	0	+ 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.1	2.2	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
SERVICES	9.1	9.0	8.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
GOVERNMENT	9.9	10.4	10.3	- 0.5	- 0.4
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
State and Local	9.5	10.0	9.8	- 0.5	- 0.3
State	2.2	2.5	2.4	- 0.3	- 0.2
Local	7.3	7.5	7.4	- 0.2	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux labor market area decreased to 53,200, a level 300 below June. The largest changes were seasonal and in government. Since July 1987, total employment showed a gain of 1,000.

Manufacturing totaled 4,300 in July, the same level as the previous month. Durable goods increased due to more business. Nondurable goods showed a downturn because of seasonal factors affecting seafood processing.

Mining remained at the same level, and construction held steady. Water transportation edged up, largely in the local transportation segment. Retail trade was boosted by scattered small gains, but finance tapered off in employment by banking. Services showed a slight increase. State government reflected mid-summer downward adjustments in state colleges and universities. Local government showed seasonal reductions in employment by the public schools.

Estimated unemployment in July moved down to 7,000, a level 300 below June. A reduction in the number of entrants and re-entrants into the labor force was partly responsible. Unemployment presently comprises 10.1 percent of the labor force compared to 10.5 percent in June and 15.1 percent in July of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 994.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show a small overall seasonal increase. State and local educational services will pull back up to normal levels as school begins. Unemployment will probably decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	83.8	82.8	81.0	+ 1.0	+ 2.8
MANUFACTURING	6.1	6.2	5.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.6	4.7	4.4	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.5	1.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
MINING	10.6	10.7	10.3	- 0.1	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	3.0	2.9	3.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.0	6.0	5.7	0	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.3	22.8	21.9	+ 0.5	+ 1.4
Wholesale Trade	5.4	5.3	5.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.2	3.2	2.9	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.9	17.5	16.9	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
General Merchandise	2.8	2.7	2.8	+ 0.1	0
Food Stores	2.9	2.6	2.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	10.4	10.4	9.7	0	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.6	3.6	3.8	0	- 0.2
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	18.6	18.8	18.1	- 0.2	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	12.6	11.8	12.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.3
Federal	0.8	0.9	0.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
State and Local	11.8	10.9	11.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.4
State	4.2	3.9	4.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Local	7.6	7.0	7.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette LMA was estimated at 83,800, an increase of 1,000 from last month's revised figure.

Manufacturing showed a decrease of 100 from June's estimate but is 300 above the July 1987 figure. Mining was down by 100 in July from last month due to lack of stability for the price of oil. Construction increased by 100 from last month's estimate due to better weather. Trade rose by 500 from June's figure due to seasonal demand. Services decreased by 200 from last month's revised estimate due to a decrease in hotels, personal services and business services industries. Government showed an increase of 800 because of summer employment at both the state and local levels.

Employment and the unemployment rate should remain stable for the next thirty days.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	59.8	59.3	59.0	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	11.0	11.0	10.8	0	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.6	2.6	2.4	0	+ 0.2
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.6	7.7	7.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.6	0.5	0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	4.3	4.1	3.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.4
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.0	3.9	4.1	+ 0.1	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.4	14.5	14.6	- 0.1	- 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.9	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Retail Trade	11.6	11.6	11.7	0	- 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.1	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.3
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.9	3.8	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.4	11.2	11.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.5	0.6	+ 0.1	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
GOVERNMENT	10.8	10.7	10.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.2	10.1	10.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
State	3.4	3.3	3.6	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Local	6.8	6.8	6.5	0	+ 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles labor market area was estimated at 59,800, an increase of 500 from June's revised estimate. Construction rose by 200 over June's revised figure and is 400 higher than the estimate for July 1987. Transportation and public utilties increased by 100 from last month's estimate. Services was up by 200 from the prior month due to an increase in hotels and social services. Government increased by 100 over last month's estimate. Trade showed a decrease of 100 from last month. All other sectors showed no change from last month.

During the next thirty days, employment should increase seasonally due to back-to-school sales and good weather. The unemployment rate should decrease as students and school employees return for the fall semester.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.7	53.6	55.5	+ 0.1	- 1.8
MANUFACTURING	6.8	7.1	6.9	- 0.3	- 0.1
Durable Goods	1.8	2.1	2.0	- 0.3	- 0.2
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.9	1.8	- 0.3	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	4.9	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.7	2.7	2.9	0	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.7	2.6	2.9	+ 0.1	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	14.1	14.6	0	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade	3.9	3.9	3.8	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.2	10.2	10.8	0	- 0.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.5	0	- 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.0	1.1	1.2	- 0.1	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.5	0	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.5	4.6	4.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	11.7	11.6	11.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Health Services	5.3	5.2	5.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	10.8	10.5	11.3	+ 0.3	- 0.5
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	10.2	9.9	10.7	+ 0.3	- 0.5
State	4.0	3.8	3.9	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Local	6.2	6.1	6.8	+ 0.1	- 0.6

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment, estimated at 53,700, was 100 above the June estimate of 53,600.

Manufacturing, estimated at 6,800, was 300 below the June estimate. This was primarily the result of temporary lay-offs in durable goods manufacturing.

Transportation and public utilities rose by 100 to an estimated 2,700 workers. Finance, insurance and real estate declined by 100. Services was up 100. Government gained 300 workers, the result of summer youth programs and the beginning of the summer semester at higher education facilities. All other segments were unchanged.

Employment is expected to rise slightly over the next 30 days. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	517.8	517.8	510.6	0	+ 7.2
MANUFACTURING	43.8	43.8	41.5	0	+ 2.3
Durable Goods	22.6	22.3	20.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.6
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	2.4	2.3	2.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Machinery	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	+ 0.2
Transportation Equipment	13.8	13.6	11.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.1
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	10.1	9.9	8.0	+ 0.2	+ 2.1
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.8	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	21.2	21.5	21.5	- 0.3	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	6.1	6.3	6.3	- 0.2	- 0.2
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.8	1.7	- 0.1	0
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.8	3.8	3.8	0	0
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.5	4.5	4.6	0	- 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	15.1	15.1	14.7	0	+ 0.4
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.2	14.2	13.8	0	+ 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	22.8	22.5	21.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.3	44.0	43.2	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Railroad Transportation	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Water Transportation	13.4	13.1	12.4	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	133.9	134.7	134.6	- 0.8	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	32.1	32.1	31.6	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.1	18.1	18.2	0	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	14.0	14.0	13.4	0	+ 0.6
Retail Trade	101.8	102.6	103.0	- 0.8	- 1.2
General Merchandise	13.8	13.9	13.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Food Stores	18.3	18.4	18.7	- 0.1	- 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	35.0	35.5	35.4	- 0.5	- 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.5	33.9	34.4	- 0.4	- 0.9
Banking	7.1	7.3	7.2	- 0.2	- 0.1
SERVICES	135.7	135.7	130.9	0	+ 4.8
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13.1	13.0	12.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Health Services	36.4	36.5	36.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	88.7	88.1	89.5	+ 0.6	- 0.8
Federal	16.0	16.0	16.0	0	0
State and Local	72.7	72.1	73.5	+ 0.6	- 0.8
State	18.3	18.3	18.2	0	+ 0.1
Local	54.4	53.8	55.3	+ 0.6	- 0.9

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$435.66	$427.63	$426.40	41.1	41.0	40.0	$10.60	$10.43	$10.66
Durable Goods	387.18	385.97	370.66	40.5	40.8	37.9	9.56	9.46	9.78
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	257.10	288.09	249.09	30.0	33.0	27.8	8.57	8.73	8.96
Fabricated Metal Products	489.69	501.56	412.15	45.3	46.7	41.8	10.81	10.74	9.86
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	358.18	346.53	331.00	40.2	39.2	34.3	8.91	8.84	9.65
Nondurable Goods	489.98	471.01	476.40	41.7	41.1	41.9	11.75	11.46	11.37
Food & Kindred Products	323.40	293.92	307.62	38.5	37.3	38.5	8.40	7.88	7.99
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	181.30	183.46	174.93	34.6	36.4	34.3	5.24	5.04	5.10
Paper & Allied Products	396.49	382.35	431.52	44.3	44.1	46.4	8.95	8.67	9.30
Printing & Publishing	388.08	350.55	394.57	39.2	36.9	42.2	9.90	9.50	9.35
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	759.46	719.59	757.35	46.0	45.4	45.9	16.51	15.85	16.50

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 30,400 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in July remained at 517,800, the same level as in June. Gains in some industry divisions were offset by losses in others.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,800, the same level as the previous month. Fabricated metal products increased due to more business. Ship and boat building and repairing added workers because of an increase in orders. Food and kindred products moved down, reflecting a seasonal decrease in the seafood processing industry. Apparel and other textile products also showed a seasonal decline.

Mining showed no change over the previous month. Construction made small seasonal gains mostly in the special trade contractors segment. Transportation and public utilities edged upward with increases mostly in water transportation. Wholesale trade held steady while retail trade exhibited normal seasonal downward adjustments, with the majority of the decreases in the general merchandise stores and eating and drinking places segments. Finance, insurance and real estate showed decreases, primarily in banking. Services employment remained the same; however, government was boosted by hires of temporary summer workers in local government.

Production workers in the area earned an average of $435.66 per week in July, up $8.03 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 41.1, up 6 minutes from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were $10.60, up $0.17 from the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are up $9.26 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in July decreased to 53,900, a level 2,700 below June. The increase in employment by place of residence was mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 8.9 percent of the labor force compared with 9.5 percent in June and 10.1 percent in July of last year. The July rate was lower than the state rate of 10.2 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 9,717.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months will probably show an overall decrease. Layoffs of temporary summer workers will lower local government. The increases in public and private educational services at the beginning of the school term will probably offset most of this loss. Unemployment is expected to decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	July 1988*	June 1988**	July 1987**	Net Change From June 1988	Net Change From July 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	130.8	132.0	132.2	- 1.2	- 1.4
MANUFACTURING	17.4	17.4	17.6	0	- 0.2
Durable Goods	12.6	12.5	12.7	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.4	7.3	7.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.6	1.5	1.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.8	5.8	5.9	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.8	4.9	4.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.2	1.3	1.4	- 0.1	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	- 0.1
MINING	3.0	3.0	3.4	0	- 0.4
CONSTRUCTION	7.8	7.6	7.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.0	8.1	8.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	32.2	32.2	32.6	0	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	7.9	7.7	8.1	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Retail Trade	24.3	24.5	24.5	- 0.2	- 0.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.3	7.2	7.4	+ 0.1	- 0.1
SERVICES	33.2	33.1	32.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
GOVERNMENT	21.9	23.4	23.0	- 1.5	- 1.1
Federal	4.7	4.8	4.7	- 0.1	0
State and Local	17.2	18.6	18.3	- 1.4	- 1.1
State	5.8	5.8	5.7	0	+ 0.1
Local	11.4	12.8	12.6	- 1.4	- 1.2

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**	July '88*	June '88**	July '87**
All MANUFACTURING	$481.82	$509.15	$463.60	41.5	42.5	39.7	$11.61	$11.98	$11.59
Lumber and Wood Products	255.82	222.18	270.09	37.4	32.2	39.2	6.84	6.90	6.89
Metals and Machinery	500.69	537.30	493.61	43.5	45.0	41.1	11.51	11.94	12.01
Food and Kindred Products	285.19	344.96	308.90	40.8	44.0	39.4	6.99	7.84	7.84
Printing and Publishing	335.12	347.00	323.70	34.8	35.7	34.4	9.63	9.72	9.41
Petroleum and Coal Products	615.23	556.66	571.33	51.7	46.7	48.5	11.90	11.92	11.78

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,000 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural employment total for this area decreased to 130,800, down from the revised June estimate of 132,000. This employment decrease occurred in nonmanufacturing and was caused by seasonal payroll adjustments in local education.

The manufacturing employment total, estimated at 17,400, remains unchanged from the revised June total, but falls below the year ago estimate of 17,600.

The total nonmanufacturing employment estimate shows the seasonal decline in local education during the summer months. The local government total of 11,400 reflects a payroll drop of 1,400 from the revised June estimate of 12,800. Construction employment continues to show gains. A small increase occurred in finance, insurance, and real estate, and in services. The transportation and public utilities employment estimate moved down 100 from the revised June figure.

Production workers in this area, estimated at 13,000, had average weekly earnings of $481.82, down $27.33 from last month, and up $18.22 from one year ago. Average weekly hours dropped from 42.5 in June to 41.5. The average hourly earnings fell slightly over the month from $11.98 to $11.61.

The civilian labor force of 164,600 for this labor market area includes 148,800 employed and 15,800 unemployed, giving an unemployment rate of 9.6 percent..

During the next thirty days, this area will show little change. Total nonagricultural employment will not likely exceed the present level, while total unemployment is expected to show a slight decline.

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